Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /081 W

-----098040 190417Z /75

R 180930Z FEB 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5697
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMENIDASS I MOSCOW

CONFIDENTIAL BAGHDAD 0350

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PINR, MASS, IZ, ET

SUBJECT: RETURN VISIT BY ERITREAN LEADER

REF: BAGHDAD 139

- 1. ERITREAN DELEGATIONHEADED BY AHMED NASSER ARRIVED IN BAGHDAD FEBRUARY 14 FOR FULL DRESS TALKS WITH IRAQI REGIME. PERHAPS SIGNIFICANTLY NASSER WAS DESCRIBED BOTH AS PRESIDENT OF THE ERITREAN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT.
- 2. TARIQ AZIZ, REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL MEMBER AND SADDAM HUSSEIN INTIMATE, HEADED IRAQI DELEGATION FOR TALKS. ACROSS THE TABLE WITH AHMED NASSER WERE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS (PHONETIC FROM ARABIC): CONFIDENTIAL

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ABDULLAH SULEIMAN, CHIEF OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OFFICE IN ERITREAN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, SALIH AYAI, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND YOHANNAS ZEE MARYAM, DIRECTOR OF THE ELF OFFICE IN BAGHDAD.

3. AHMED NASSER STATED UPON ARRIVAL HIS APPRECIATION FOR IRAQI SUPPORT. TARIQ AZIZ ANNOUNCED, FOLLOWING TALKS ON FEBRUARY

15, THAT BAATH PARTY AND REVOLUTION IN IRAQ WOULD CONTINUE ITS SUPPORT FOR ERITREAN REVOLUTION UNTIL IT ACHIEVED VICTORY.

4. COMMENT: IRAQI MEDIA IS GIVING UNUSUALLY PROMINENT PLAY TO THIS VISIT WHICH FOLLOWS AHMED NASSER'S LAST TRIP HERE BY ONLY LESS THAN ONE MONTH. TARIQ AZIZ WAS SPEAKING IN HIS CAPACTIY AS MEMBER OF BAATH NATIONAL COMMAND, WHERE HE HAS CHARGE OF RELATIONS WITH LIBERATION GROUPS, BUT NO ONE HERE DOUBTS THAT HE IS ALSO AN AUTHORITATIVE SPOKESMAN FOR IRAQI STATE. PECK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: RELIGIOUS LEADERS, VISITS, ERITREANS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 18 feb 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BAGHDA00350
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780076-1150 Format: TEL

From: BAGHDAD Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780238/aaaabfug.tel

Line Count: 74 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b7f007d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 BAGHDAD 139

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 26 apr 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3550302 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: RETURN VISIT BY ERITREAN LEADER

TAGS: PEPR, PINR, MASS, IZ, ET

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b7f007d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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